

**ANC 2B DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, May 13, 2009 Jewish Community Center

The May Regular Meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chairman Silverstein at 7:00 pm. The Commissioners identified their Single Member Districts (SMDs). Present were: Mike Feldstein (2B01), Bob Meehan (2B03), Jack Jacobson (2B04), Mike Silverstein (2B06), Phil Carney (2B07), Will Stephens (2B08) and Ramon Estrada (2B09). The Chairman noted the presence of a quorum. Commissioner Victor Wexler (2B05) was not present. 2B02 remains vacant until the special election.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to approve the April minutes, subject to technical corrections. Commissioner Stephens seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Public Announcements

Commissioner Carney: The Concert for Life will take place May 15th. More info can be found at: <http://www.concertforlife.org/>

Commissioner Silverstein: Francis Stevens School will hold Unity Day on Saturday, May 16th. Federal Judge James Robertson ruled in favor of Third Church of Christ Scientist to raze its building.

Introduction of and discussion with DDOT Director Gabe Klein

Mr. Klein did not attend tonight's meeting due to illness. He is expecting to attend the June meeting.

Public Safety

Commissioner Jacobson introduced Sgt. John MacDonald, MPD, PSA 208:

Crime Statistics for the last 30 days:

- crime down 17% YTD, with exception of auto thefts
- rooftop burglar on O Street NW did not occur as some had speculated
- there were no rooftop burglaries in the last 30 days

The Dupont Circle Public Safety Committee normally meets every third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) station at 1620 V Street NW.

Committee Reports

None

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Stephens presented the following report for new meeting space options for the Commission's monthly meetings. He noted that the best option so far appears to be the Brookings Institute for \$100 per meeting. The Commission will revisit this matter at the June meeting.

Preliminary Report on Public Meeting Space Options *Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2B)*

Submitted by: Will Stephens

Date: May 13, 2009

Background

Several ANC 2B Commissioners and Executive Director Freddie Blicher have worked together to contact and visit alternative public meeting space options over the last two months. This preliminary report provides a summary of our findings, as well as some initial recommendations. I am maintaining a master spreadsheet for all of the information we obtain, which I will share with the group on Backpack.

Potential Venues

We have looked into the following potential venues:

- Dupont Hotel
- Hotel Palomar
- Hilton Embassy
- Marriott Courtyard
- Beacon Hotel & Suites
- International Student House
- Johns Hopkins
- Ross School
- Sumner School
- Cosmos Club
- Phillips Collection

- Foundry Methodist Church
- Scottish Rite
- Eastern Star
- St. Thomas
- Carnegie Institute
- German Marshall Fund
- Nat'l Trust for Historic Preservation
- Women's Nat'l Democratic Club
- Human Rights Campaign
- Brookings Institute
- SEIU
- American Geophysical Union
- Mathematical Ass'n of America

If you think of any other potential venues, please let me know.

Rejected Venues

The following venues are not feasible – either due to size, lack of handicap access, or because they do not host such meetings, among other reasons:

- Hotel Palomar (no interest)
- Johns Hopkins (no availability in evenings)
- Ross School (no rooms of sufficient size)
- Eastern Star (no interest)
- German Marshall Fund (no interest)
- International Student House (no handicap access)
- St. Thomas (no handicap access)

Expensive Venues

The following venues could work, but are probably too expensive for our budget:

- Hilton Embassy (\$500 or \$800 per meeting + extras)
- Marriott Courtyard (\$1000 per meeting + extras)
- SEIU (\$600 per meeting)
- Phillips Collection (\$3000 per meeting)
- Carnegie Institute (\$600 per meeting)
- National Trust for Historic Preservation (\$500 per meeting)

Recommended Venues

Based on the information we have gleaned to date, the following three venues are the most attractive and cost-effective options, in order:

(1) Brookings Institute

\$100 per meeting
4 room options (min. ~50 people, max several hundred)
A/V available

(2) Mathematical Association of America

\$400 per meeting
A/V available
Coffee/tea & kitchen included
Seating capacity: 66

(3) Dupont Hotel

\$400 per meeting
Refreshments (drinks) included
Seating capacity: 50

Venues Needing Additional Information

There are also still several venues for which we could use additional information:

- Women's National Democratic Club
- Sumner School
- American Geophysical Union
- Cosmos Club
- Foundry Methodist Church
- Scottish Rite
- Beacon Hotel & Suites
- Human Rights Campaign

Report on ABRA developments

Commissioner Jacobson noted that ABRA received a ruling on the Dupont Circle East Moratorium. The ruling addressed the following points:

- Renewed the Moratorium for three years, where ANC 2B had recommended five years.
- Granted two lateral expansions requested by the Commission.

- Added one additional restaurant license, which the Commission did not request.

He noted that the Commission would help the community work towards attracting retail businesses to 17th Street over the next three years. Commissioner Silverstein recognized Commissioner Jacobson's hard work on this matter.

General

Setting the date for special election to fill vacancy for SMD 2B02. Introduction of candidates and brief remarks.

Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to hold the special election on June 10, 2009. The preferred hours will be from 6:00 - 9:00 PM. If that is not possible, then the election will take place from 7:00 - 9:00 PM, and we will notify all parties in 72 hours. Commissioner Jacobson seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

The Candidates introduced themselves and briefly spoke:

- Jim Dudney
- Ryan Ellison
- Kevin O'Connor
- Bhavna Patel

Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to list candidates' names in alphabetical order. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (6-1) with Commissioner Stephens voting in opposition.

Presentation by Catholic Charities DC

A representative did not attend the meeting.

Presentation by Zach Martin regarding DC Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Agency (DC-HSEMA) upcoming community preparedness sessions.

Mr. Martin spoke briefly about emergency preparedness meetings for the community. Meetings will address disaster planning and GoKits. More information can be found at www.dccommunitypreparedness.org or at 202-338-7153 x212. Sign up for emergency text alerts at www.72hours.dc.gov. The next meeting will take place on May 16 at 10:00 AM at 3320 Idaho Avenue NW, and on May 30 at 10:00 AM at 1101 24th Street NW.

Presentation by Rasheed Green and Monisha Alkhoury of Mentors, Inc.

Mr. Green briefly spoke regarding Mentor's Inc.'s mission to increase the graduation rate of DC high school students in grade 9 - 12. Mentor's Inc. requested volunteers for a monthly commitment of five to eight hours each month.

Consideration of a resolution to join the Pride Parade

Commissioner Stephens made the following motion:

Whereas the Capital Pride Parade is an annual celebration of the diversity of our neighborhood and the District; and

Whereas the Capital Pride Parade route runs entirely within the borders of ANC 2B;

Therefore be it resolved that ANC 2B join in the Capital Pride Parade with one or two cars, depending on the number of ANC 2B Commissioners who participate; and

Be it further resolved that ANC 2B authorizes expenditures for the rental of one or two convertibles and the purchase of signage to mark the cars for the Parade.

The motion passed (7-0).

Consideration of Resolution in Support of Permanent Council Legislation to Protect Small Businesses During Public Works Construction Projects

Commissioner Stephens made the following motion:

Whereas the Dupont Circle neighborhood continues to lose small businesses due to the lingering effects of the disruptions caused by the P Street streetscape project, as exacerbated by the subsequent economic downturn; and

Whereas the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2B) worked with local businesses, city officials, and neighbors to try to maintain traffic to the P Street corridor and minimize the harmful effects of the construction work;

Whereas many additional street reconstruction and streetscape projects are slated for commercial corridors of the neighborhood in the coming months—including 17th Street and 18th Street;

Whereas ANC 2B at its April 2009 meeting requested certain tax penalty leniency for affected businesses on P Street;

Therefore be it resolved that ANC 2B supports permanent Council legislation to provide for tax deferrals and other relief for small businesses affected by streetscape and road reconstruction projects; and

Be it further resolved that the Chair share this resolution with each Council Member.

Commissioner Silverstein made a friendly amendment to change the language “tax leniency” to “tax penalty leniency” in the motion. Commissioner Stephens accepted the friendly amendment. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

Consideration of a resolution welcoming the new Director of Parks and Recreation and encouraging Mayor Fenty to appoint additional GLBT community members to the administration

Commissioner Stephens made the following motion:

Whereas, Mayor Fenty has named Dr. Ximena Hartsock as the new Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation;

Whereas Dupont Circle ANC 2B respected and worked productively with Dr. Hartsock in her former capacity as the Principal of Ross School;

Whereas ANC 2B has worked closely with DPR on several recent and ongoing park projects—including the renovation of Stead Park and the S & T Street parks;

Therefore be it resolved that ANC 2B congratulates Dr. Hartsock on her new appointment and looks forward to working with her on these and other important neighborhood projects; and

Be it further resolved that the Chair invite Dr. Hartsock to an upcoming ANC 2B public meeting to discuss these important items and continue the positive collaboration ANC 2B was able to foster under former DPR Director Clark Ray.

Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (5-0-2) with Commissioners Meehan and Jacobson abstaining.

Regulatory

Application for DR (beer and wine) license for Johnathan Gourmet Deli, 1120 19th Street NW.

Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to technically support the application, pending the negotiation of a voluntary agreement. Commissioner Jacobson stated that the Commission should not oppose or support anything until the applicant has submitted a formal application to

ABRA. Commissioner Silverstein requested the applicant to first submit an application and return before the Commission at a later date. He suggested the Commission consider a stipulated license at that time.

Application for a stipulated DR (beer and wine) license for Cafe Chopsticks, 1020 19th Street NW, Mrs. Lee (2B06)

Commissioner Stephens made a motion to support the request. Commissioner Feldstein seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

Consideration of request by Bistro, Inc, 1729 Connecticut Ave. NW seeking a stipulated CT license w/ entertainment endorsement. (2B01)

Commissioner Silverstein noted that the applicant signed a Voluntary Agreement. Commissioner Stephens made a motion that in consideration of the voluntary agreement, the Commission supports the stipulated license request. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

Application for renewal of a Class Retailer A license for the following establishments:

Universal Daruwala, Llc t/a Universal Liquors, 2018 Florida Ave NW (2B01)

Connecticut Av Wine & Liquors Inc, 1529 Connecticut Ave NW (2B02)

Grape Finds at Dupont Inc t/a Best Cellars, 1643 Connecticut Ave NW (2B02)

Kanu Inc t/a 1 West Dupont Circle Wine and Liquors, 2012 P Street NW (2B02)

VT&B, Inc t/a State Liquors, 2159 P Street NW (2B02)

Rose Bud Liquors, 1711 17th St., NW (2B04)

Parki Inc t/a Imperial Liquors, 1050 17th Street NW (2B05)

UMA Inc t/a Downtown Spirits and Deli, 1522 K Street NW (2B05)

Lillian Morrison Inc t/a Bell Wine & Liquor, 1821 M Street NW (2B06)

Prerna, Inc t/a Barmy Wine and Liquors, 1912 L Street NW (2B06)

S&R Liquors Inc, 1800 I Street NW (2B06)

Venus Indo Services, Inc t/a Pan Mar Liquors, 1926 I Street NW (2B06)

Dupont Fine Wine & Spirits Inc, 1325 Connecticut Ave NW (2B07)

MMGZ Inc t/a Ben Moll Liquors, 1700 U Street NW (2B08)

Ganducci Inc t/a Martin's Wine & Spirits, 1919 Florida Ave NW (1C01)

FKT Enterprises Inc t/a Florida Liquors, 2222 14th St NW (1B04)

No Commissioners objected to the application renewals. Commissioner Silverstein suggested the Commission take no action. Commissioner Stephens made a friendly amendment to support Ben Moll Liquors, rather than take no action. Commissioner Silverstein accepted the friendly amendment. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

Consideration of Public Space Applications for the following addresses:

Robert Hobans, 1 Dupont Circle (2B02)

Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to support the application. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

1999 K Street (2B06)

Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to support the application. Commissioner Stephens seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

Elephant & Castle, 900 19th Street (2B06)

Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to support the application. Commissioner Meehan seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

Embassy of Chile, 1732 Massachusetts Av.

Commissioner Carney made a motion to support the application. Commissioner Stephens seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

Administrative/Financial Matters

Discussion of and possible resolution establishing a working group on the future of 17th Street

Commissioner Silverstein stressed that the 17th Street committee needs to reach out to others in the community to promote the neighborhood and support businesses on 17th Street. He suggested that the Committee does not need to pass a resolution to act on this matter.

ANC 2B Policy & Procedures Manual - Version 1.1 and By-law amendment

Commissioner Stephens made the following motion:

RESOLVED that the Dupont Circle ANC 2B By-Laws be amended as follows:

Insert at the end of Article VIII the following:

“Section 3 – The Commission shall conduct its business in accordance with the most recently approved version of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission Policy and Procedures Manual.”

Commissioner Stephens noted that this by-law amendment was noticed at the April 2009 public meeting, in accordance with the rules for amending the by-laws. The motion carried (7-0).

Commissioner Stephens made a motion to approve a new version (Version 1.1) of the “Dupont Circle ANC Policy & Procedures Manual,” with new language requiring individual commissioners to report on relevant issues in neighboring jurisdictions and requesting the Chairman to work with other ANC chairs in Ward 2 to set up regular, ward-wide leadership meetings. Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to table the proposal. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (5-0-2) with Commissioners Stephens and Feldstein abstaining.

[Click here to view the proposed Dupont Circle ANC 2B Policy & Procedure Manual](#)

Quarterly Report

Commissioner Jacobson reported that he submitted the Commission’s quarterly report.

- Started quarter with \$20,955.40 in checking
- Spent \$3,935.88
- Final balance is \$17,019.62

The Commission received no disbursements from the DC government this quarter.

The full report will be available on www.dupontcircleanc.net.

Commissioner Jacobson submitted the report for approval, subject to obtaining a meeting receipt from Foundry Methodist Church, and subject to the approval of the Chair and Chair’s former assistant’s review. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

At 10:00 PM, Commissioner Silverstein moved to adjourn the meeting, which passed by acclamation.

The next regular meeting of ANC 2B will be held on Wednesday, June 10, 2009, 7:00 PM at the D.C. Jewish Community Center at 16th and Q Streets, NW.

Respectfully submitted,

Alfred E. Blicher, Jr.
Executive Director
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

ADOPTED: June 10, 2009